

SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2003-2004

-Commonwealth of Kentucky-

South Oldham Middle School

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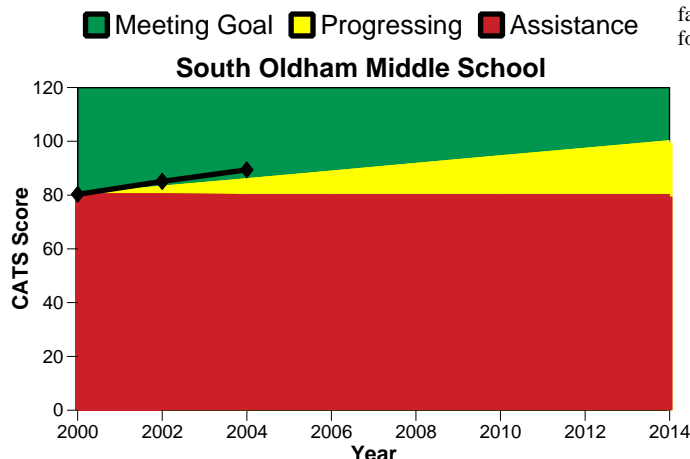


Dear Parents/Guardians:

Here is our school's report card for the 2003-2004 school year. This report card is full of important information, including academic performance, teacher qualifications, our learning environment, and much more. Please take a moment to learn more about our school. For a more detailed look at our school, please contact us to see our Expanded Report Card on file at school, which includes more information than we can provide here.

The School Growth Chart:

To see how we're performing, please take a moment to examine our growth chart. This chart starts with our school's baseline CATS score from 2000. We've drawn a goal line from that starting point to our goal of 100 in 2014. Every two years a new index point will be marked on the chart to show whether we are meeting our goal and earning rewards, progressing but short of our goal, or falling far short of our goal and eligible for state assistance. Over time, these points will form a performance trend line for our school.



Year	Goal Line	Assistance Line	Index
2000	79.7		80.3
2002	82.5	79.4	85.1
2004	85.3	79.4	89.4
2006	88.1	79.4	
2008	91	79.4	
2010	93.8	79.4	
2012	96.6	79.4	
2014	99.4	79.4	
Standard Error: .6			

About Our School

Excellence and striving to achieve excellence drive every decision made at SOMS. The faculty is committed to helping all students succeed by providing adequate time to learn while connecting learning to real life. A student who effectively communicates and who demonstrates responsibility to self and others will achieve excellence in life. This well-defined vision permeates our assessment and instruction at all grade levels. SOMS offers an intensive instructional program that is responsive to assessment. This program integrates Kentucky's core content for assessment with best practices in teaching as well as our district exit standards for sixth through eighth grades. Several outstanding programs support our instructional program. One is our Jobs Program, which matches students with caring adults. These students contribute positively to our school and achieve self-esteem while learning and working. Our Goal Getters program reinforces our goal of excellence. Held four times a year, this reward ceremony publicly recognizes students for their accomplishments in academic achievement, attendance and citizenship. Our community expects that our students will be among the top achievers in the state and that our devoted hard-working faculty will continue to find ways to meet their needs. Our parents are actively involved in supporting our school. We have a strong PTSA and a very active Booster Club. These two organizations provide many resources that help us provide our students with an excellent educational program.

How Our School Ensures Educational Equity

South Oldham Middle School students receive instruction that addresses learning styles, providing modifications and extensions to meet individual needs. SOMS offers special education programs that make an extraordinary effort to keep special needs students in regular classes but with the assistance of collaborative teachers who help them to be successful in these classes. The regular education teachers take into account the principles of multiple intelligences when doing their lesson plans and in planning activities for the students. All students are helped to perform the best ways they can to meet the state and district standards. When necessary, individual plans are drawn up in the form of 504s, IEPs and ILPs, that are distributed to the student's teachers so they can follow the individual plan for that student. Counseling services are provided to students who need extra care in making them secure in their environment so that they can be more open to learning. Co- and extra-curricular opportunities are open to all students, making them more integral parts of the school community. An environment of care and respect for each other is promoted and this ambiance permeates the school. Administrators, counselors, teachers, and staff make themselves available to all students, making each and every one welcomed and valued. South Oldham Middle School is a place where the individual student can find an outstanding learning environment dedicated to his/her learning needs.

School Enrollment (end of year membership 2003-2004): 767

How Our Students Perform

Kentucky uses the Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS) to hold schools accountable for student progress. CATS has three parts: the Kentucky Core Content Tests, the national Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS/5), and other measures of the school's performance, including attendance, retention and dropout rates. Together these three elements make up a school's CATS Performance Score for every two-year period.

Kentucky Core Content Tests

Kentucky's tests rate student performance using four categories: Novice, Apprentice, Proficient, and Distinguished. These categories translate into a scale of 0-140, with 100 being considered proficient. The state goal for all schools is 100 by the year 2014. This chart compares our school's performance with all the schools in our district and all the schools in Kentucky.

KCCT Test	Novice			Apprentice			Proficient/Distinguished			Academic Index		
	School	District	State	School	District	State	School	District	State	School	District	State
Reading 7th	2%	1%	8%	19%	13%	32%	79%	86%	60%	97.5	103.3	85.1
Science 7th	5%	5%	24%	24%	20%	36%	71%	75%	41%	103.5	106.1	74.6
Writing 7th	7%	5%	29%	54%	48%	51%	38%	47%	20%	73.3	78.8	54.9
Mathematics 8th	11%	8%	26%	29%	30%	41%	60%	62%	33%	90.4	93	68.1
Social Studies 8th	5%	3%	17%	38%	34%	44%	57%	63%	39%	89.2	93.1	74.1
Arts & Humanities 8th	11%	7%	23%	33%	28%	32%	56%	66%	44%	80.8	89.4	69.8
PL/VS 8th	9%	7%	20%	33%	34%	41%	58%	59%	39%	83.6	87.3	70.2

The goal is that by 2014 nearly all students will score proficient or distinguished.

National Norm Referenced Test

The national norm referenced test used in Kentucky, the CTBS/5, measures the basic skills of our students while allowing us to compare their performance with national benchmarks established in 1996. These scores are reported in percentiles. A percentile shows the percentage of students who fell below a particular score on the test. For example, a percentile of 60 would show that the average student in our school scored equal to or better than 60 percent of all students who took the test.

National Norm Referenced Test (CTBS/5)	School	District	State	Nation
6th Grade Reading	75%ile	73%ile	56%ile	50%ile
6th Grade Language Arts	72%ile	69%ile	53%ile	50%ile
6th Grade Mathematics	84%ile	78%ile	55%ile	50%ile

Other Measures

The final component of CATS is our school's performance in Attendance, Retention, Dropout and Transition to Adult Life, where appropriate. (The Retention Rate is the percent of students who were not academically ready to go on to the next grade and had to repeat the grade.) Data in these tables reflect our performance during the 2002-2003 school year.

	Attendance Rate	Retention Rate	Dropout Rate
School	96.2%	0%	0%
District	95.7%	0.8%	0.8%
State	94.3%	3.4%	2.2%

State Contest Results: Academic/Speech, Band, Chorus, and Orchestra

The SOMS band continues to be an outstanding group with fifty-seven members participating in the KMEA All-District Band and sixty finalists in Solo Ensemble. The band received distinguished ratings during the KMEA Band Festival. Five students are members of the Louisville Youth Orchestra. During the year, several conductors from the Louisville Orchestra visited the band. The SOMS choir continued to distinguish itself. There were ten solo finalists and six winners in the small ensemble competition. The school offered the first performance of a complete musical at the seventh grade level. Students also ran stage and lighting technical concerns. In other areas, three students received awards in the District Reflections Program. One student qualified for the state level in the MathCounts competition. One student received the title of State Middle School Wrestling Champion. Five students received awards at the National Junior Beta Convention.

Teacher Qualifications

This chart shows the level of teacher certification, continuing education, and classroom experience of our teachers. These numbers do not include our administrators, guidance counselors, or library media specialists. Please bear in mind that teachers may be fully certified and yet not possess a formal major or minor in the subjects they are teaching. Upon request, our district will provide information about the qualifications of your child's teachers and teachers' aides.

	Sch.	Dist.	State
% of Classes Taught by Teachers Certified for Subject and Grade Level	100%	100%	NA
% of Classes Taught by Teachers With a Major, Minor, or Equivalent in the Subject Being Taught	100%	98%	NA
% of Classes Taught by Teachers Who Participated in Content-Focused Professional Development	100%	100%	NA
% of Teachers with a Masters Degree or Greater or the Equivalent	73%	81%	82%
Average Years of Teaching Experience	14.1	11.7	11.9

Our Learning Environment

School Safety

Here's what we are doing to make our school safe for our students.

	Yes	No
Visitors are Required to Sign In	X	
All Parents received the District Discipline Code	X	
% of Classrooms with Telephone Access to Outside Lines	100%	

Procedures in Place in Our School for Drug and Weapons Detection

To ensure the safety of everyone at South Oldham Middle School, our staff, students and parents (along with our school resource officer) work cooperatively to promote a safe and orderly environment that is conducive to high levels of learning. Thirteen video surveillance cameras are used to monitor the entire building. All exterior doors except for the front doors are locked throughout the day. Visitors coming into the building through the front doors can be seen by office staff and are required to sign in at the front office to receive an identification badge. All staff are provided a safe school manual. A school response team is trained annually, prepared to respond in the event of a true emergency. NOTE: According to Board Policy, possession/distribution of any type of drug (prescription, over-the-counter, narcotic, etc.) is classified as a drug abuse violation; and look-alike weapons are considered to be weapons.

Violation	Number of Reported Incidents	Number of Students Suspended or Expelled for This
Aggravated Assault (with intent to cause injury)	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations	3	4
Weapons Violations	0	0

Student Resources

	Spending per Student	Student/Teacher Ratio	Student/Computer Ratio	% of Classrooms with at Least One KETS Workstation with Internet Access
Our School	\$4314	17:1	4.2:1	100%
District	\$5767	17:1	5.8:1	100%
State	\$7007	16:1	3.8:1	100%

How We Use Technology to Teach

South Oldham Middle School is connected to a local and wide-area network, and through that to the internet. All students have personal logins and e-mail accounts provided by the district to support classroom learning. With the support of a full-time technology coordinator, computer skills and activities are integrated throughout the curriculum. There are at least seven networked computers to support the use of science probes and software in almost all sixth and seventh grade science classrooms. Teachers may check out mobile computers with projectors from the media center for classroom instruction. There are two thirty-station computer labs for use by all classes; and additional workstations are located in the media center. Automated book catalog software is accessible school wide. Microsoft Office software applications are available on all computers; and other software, such as Pagemaker, Photoshop, Geometers Sketchpad, and HyperStudio, is available in the computer labs. Accelerated Reader, accelerated Math, and Read Write Gold text reading software are used in support of instruction as well. The school web site provides a gateway to the resources found on the Internet and provides space for student and teacher publishing and sharing. AlphaSmart machines are available to special needs students.

Parental Involvement

	# of Students Whose Parent/Guardian Had at Least One Teacher Conference	# of Parents/Guardians Voting in School Council (SBDM) Elections	# of Parents/Guardians Serving on the School Council (SBDM) or Its Committees	# of Volunteer Hours
Our School	657	308	12	3943

Extracurricular Activities

South Oldham Middle School is proud to offer a variety of extracurriculr activities. These include: Art Club, Girls/Boys Basketball, Cheerleading, Chess Club, Girls/Boys Cross Country, Dance Team, Drama Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Football, Boys/Girls Golf, Boys/Girls Intramurals, MathCounts, National Junior Beta Club, Student Leadership Committee, Student Technology Leadership Program, Boys/Girls Tennis Team, Boys/Girls Track, Volleyball, Wrestling, Yearbok, Junior Giving Program, Kentucky United Nations Assembly, Governor’s Cup Academic Competition, Science and Service on Site, and Kentucky Youth Assembly.

Awards and Recognition

2000-2001 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence; 2000 - 2001 Kentucky School of Excellence; 2000 State Level for the Duke Talent Search; 2000 - a sixth grader scored 1000 on the SAT; 2000 Louisville Writing Project Fellow Award; 2000 Duke University TIP Honorees; 2002 TIP - nine students received state awards, one student scored over 1000 on the SAT; the All-County Jazz Ensemble had 25 students from SOMS; Two students received first and second places in the Louisville Visual Arts Association Great Steamboat Race competition; one student was selected as a People to People student ambassador; three students received first, second and third places in the Regional Science Fair; 2001 Football conference champions; 2003 Girls’ Basketball conference champions; 2004 Football conference runner-up; 2004 Golf conference champions; 2003 Girls’ Track county champions; 2002 Boys’ Basketball seventh grade conference champions.

What We Are Doing To Improve

South Oldham Middle School uses the Comprehensive Improvement process provided by the State of Kentucky to identify and address the needs of our students and to set improvement goals and objectives in order to refine our educational program. South Oldham Middle School, while consistently performing in the top fifty of Kentucky Middle Schools, focuses on continuing improvement. We use achievement as well as demographic data to inform our efforts and to keep us focused on setting and achieving measurable goals. This focused effort in an educational program has served our students quite well as they prepare for their future endeavors.

How to Get More Information

Call, e-mail, fax or write to our principal at the number and address on the top of this School Report Card. You may contact your School Council Members at the numbers below. Visit our main office and ask for the Expanded School Report Card that contains a variety of information including Kentucky Core Content Test data and CTBS/5 national norm referenced test data disaggregated by gender, ethnicity, disability and other criteria. This disaggregated data is available to you at no cost. The remainder of the Expanded School Report Card may be free or provided at cost of copying.

Member’s Name	Phone	Member’s Name	Phone
Ronald Adkisson	502 241 0320		
Kathy House	502 241 0320		
Kris Faller	502 241 5299		
Mary Lohr	502 241 0320		
William Wells	502 241 0320		
Sharon Blair	502 241 0112		

Our school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in employment or provision of services.



TO THE PARENTS OF:

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